Case 3:22-cv-00075-KC Document 1 Filed 03/04/22 Page 1 of 20 JUDGE KATHLEEN CAPACIES

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS EI PASO DIVISION

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BRANDON CALLIER,

v.

Plaintiff.

BROTHERS ROAD PARTNERS, LTD d/b/a ONESTA, a New Jersey Limited Corporation, and THOMAS TRAMAGLINI

Defendants.

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CESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS

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PLAINTIFF'S ORIGINAL COMPLAINT

PARTIES

- 1. The Plaintiff is BRANDON CALLIER, a natural person and resident of the Western District of Texas, and was present in Texas for all calls, in this case in El Paso County.
- 2. Defendant BROTHERS ROAD PARTNERS LTD ("Brothers") d/b/a Onesta, is a New Jersey limited corporation with a principal address of 109 Beacon Lane, Eatontown, New Jersey 07724 and can be served via registered agent Thomas W Tramaglini, 331 Newman Springs Road, Building 1, 4th Floor, Suite 143, Red Bank, New Jersey, 07701.
- Defendant THOMAS TRAMAGLINI ("Tramaglini") is a President, Chairman of the Board of Directors, and Registered agent of Brothers Road Partners LTD and can be served at 331 Newman Springs Road, Building 1, 4th Floor, Suite 143, Red Bank, New Jersey, 07701.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

4. <u>Jurisdiction</u>. This Court has federal-question subject matter jurisdiction over Plaintiff's TCPA claims pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331 because the TCPA is a federal statute. *Mims v. Arrow Fin. Servs.*, *LLC*, 565 U.S. 368, 372 (2012). This Court has supplemental subject

matter jurisdiction over Plaintiff's claim arising under Texas Business and Commerce Code 305.053 because that claim arises from the same nucleus of operative fact, i.e., Defendants' telemarketing robocalls to Plaintiff; adds little complexity to the case; and doesn't seek money damages, so it is unlikely to predominate over the TCPA claims.

- 5. <u>Personal Jurisdiction</u>. This Court has general personal jurisdiction over the defendant because they have repeatedly placed calls to Texas residents, and derive revenue from Texas residents, and they sell goods and services to Texas residents, including the Plaintiff.
- 6. Venue. Venue is proper in this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(1)-(2) because a substantial part of the events giving rise to the claims—the calls and sale of goods and services directed at Texas residents, including the Plaintiff—occurred in this District and because the Plaintiff resides in this District. Residing in the Western District of Texas when he received a substantial if not every single call from the Defendants that are the subject matter of this lawsuit.
- 7. This Court has venue over the defendants because the calls at issue were sent by or on behalf of the above-named defendants to the Plaintiff, a Texas resident.

THE TELEPHONE CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT OF 1991, 47 U.S.C. § 227

- 8. In 1991, Congress enacted the TCPA to restrict the use of sophisticated telemarketing equipment that could target millions of consumers *en masse*. Congress found that these calls were not only a nuisance and an invasion of privacy to consumers specifically but were also a threat to interstate commerce generally. *See* S. Rep. No. 102-178, at 2-3 (1991), as reprinted in 1991 U.S.C.C.A.N. 1968, 1969-71.
- 9. The TCPA makes it unlawful "to make any call (other than a call made for emergency purposes or made with the prior express consent of the called party) using an automatic

- telephone dialing system or an artificial or prerecorded voice ... to any telephone number assigned to a ... cellular telephone service." 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1)(A)(iii).
- 10. The TCPA makes it unlawful "to initiate any telephone call to any residential telephone line using an artificial or prerecorded voice to deliver a message without the prior express consent of the called party, unless the call is initiated for emergency purposes, is made solely pursuant to the collection of a debt owed to or guaranteed by the United States, or is exempted by rule or order" of the Federal Communication Commission ("FCC"). 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1)(B).
- 11. The TCPA provides a private cause of action to persons who receive calls in violation of § 227(b). 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3).
- 12. Separately, the TCPA bans making telemarketing calls without a do-not-call policy available upon demand. 47 U.S.C. § 227(c); 47 C.F.R. § 64.1200(d)(1).
- 13. The TCPA provides a private cause of action to persons who receive calls in violation of § 227(c) or a regulation promulgated thereunder. 47 U.S.C. § 227(c)(5).
- 14. According to findings of the FCC, the agency vested by Congress with authority to issue regulations implementing the TCPA, automated or prerecorded telephone calls are a greater nuisance and invasion of privacy than live solicitation calls and can be costly and inconvenient.
- 15. The FCC also recognizes that "wireless customers are charged for incoming calls whether they pay in advance or after the minutes are used." *In re Rules and Regulations Implementing the Tel. Consumer Prot. Act of 1991*, 18 FCC Rcd. 14014, 14115 ¶ 165 (2003).

¹ See Code of Federal Regulations, Title 47, Parts 40 to 60, at 425 (2017) (codifying a June 26, 2003 FCC order).

- 16. The FCC requires "prior express written consent" for all autodialed or prerecorded telemarketing robocalls to wireless numbers and residential lines. In particular:[A] consumer's written consent to receive telemarketing robocalls must be signed and be sufficient to show that the consumer: (1) received clear and conspicuous disclosure of the consequences of providing the requested consent, *i.e.*, that the consumer will receive future calls that deliver prerecorded messages by or on behalf of a specific seller; and (2) having received this information, agrees unambiguously to receive such calls at a telephone number the consumer designates. In addition, the written agreement must be obtained without requiring, directly or indirectly, that the agreement be executed as a condition of purchasing any good or service.
- 17. In the Matter of Rules & Regulations Implementing the Tel. Consumer Prot. Act of 1991, 27 FCC Rcd. 1830, 1844 ¶ 33 (2012) (footnote and internal quotation marks omitted). FCC regulations "generally establish that the party on whose behalf a solicitation is made bears ultimate responsibility for any violations." In the Matter of Rules and Regulations Implementing the Tel. Consumer Prot. Act of 1991, 10 FCC Rcd. 12391, 12397 ¶ 13 (1995).
- 18. The FCC confirmed this principle in 2013, when it explained that "a seller ... may be held vicariously liable under federal common law principles of agency for violations of either section 227(b) or section 227(c) that are committed by third-party telemarketers." *In the Matter of the Joint Petition Filed by Dish Network, LLC*, 28 FCC Rcd. 6574, 6574 ¶ 1 (2013).
- 19. Under the TCPA, a text message is a call. Satterfield v. Simon & Schuster, Inc., 569 F.3d 946, 951 52 (9th Cir. 2009).
- 20. A corporate officer involved in the telemarketing at issue may be personally liable under the

TCPA. *E.g.*, *Jackson Five Star Catering, Inc. v. Beason*, Case No. 10-10010, 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 159985, at *10 (E.D. Mich. Nov. 8, 2013) ("[M]any courts have held that corporate actors can be individually liable for violating the TCPA where they had direct, personal participation in or personally authorized the conduct found to have violated the statute." (internal quotation marks omitted)); *Maryland v. Universal Elections*, 787 F. Supp. 2d 408, 415 – 16 (D. Md. 2011) ("If an individual acting on behalf of a corporation could avoid individual liability, the TCPA would lose much of its force.").

The Texas Business and Commerce Code § 302.101

- 21. The Texas Business and Commerce code requires sellers to obtain a registration certificate from the Secretary of State in order to make telephone solicitations inside the state of Texas or to residents located in the state of Texas.
- 22. The Plaintiff may seek damages for violations of Texas Business and Commerce Code § 302.101 of up to \$5,000 per violation, reasonable costs of prosecuting the action, court costs, investigation costs, depositions expenses, witness fees, and attorney's fees.
- 23. Texas Business and Commerce Code § 302.101 provides a private right of action. A violation of Chapter 302 "is a false, misleading, or deceptive act or practice under Subchapter E, Chapter 17" and is enforceable as such: "A public or private right or remedy prescribed by Subchapter E, Chapter 17, may be used to enforce [Chapter 302." Tex. Bus. & Com. Code § 302.303.
- 24. The use or employment by any person of a false, misleading, or deceptive act or practice" causes "economic damages or damages for mental anguish." Tex. Bus. & Com. Code § 17.50.

The Texas Business and Commerce Code 305.053

- 25. The Texas Business and Commerce code has an analogous portion that is related to the TCPA and was violated in this case.
- 26. The Plaintiff may seek damages under this Texas law for violations of 47 USC 227 or subchapter A and seek \$500 in statutory damages or \$1500 for willful or knowing damages.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- 27. The Plaintiff has received at least nine calls over a ten month period to his cell phone without his prior express written consent and not related to an emergency purpose, soliciting business funding products and services of Defendant Brothers.
- 28. Plaintiff has been on the National Do Not Call Registry since December 2007.
- 29. The Plaintiff received the first of the nine phone calls on or about March 12, 2020, from Todd Davis. Plaintiff did not need or want business funding and told Mr. Davis he would fill out an application online should he ever need business funding offered by Defendants.
- 30. On July 16, 2020 Plaintiff received an automated call from Defendant Capital from phone number 973-453-2167.
- 31. Plaintiff answered the phone and heard an audible "beep" before he was connected to a third-party representative and asked to speak to "the business owner." Plaintiff was then asked qualifying questions about his business revenues, debts and credit score.
- 32. Plaintiff advised the representative he was interested in business funding for the sole purposes of identifying the company responsible for the illegal robocalls.
- 33. The third-party representative asked for the Plaintiff's email address and sent the Plaintiff an email asking the Plaintiff to submit an application via Docusign.

- 34. The email Plaintiff received from the representative contained Defendant Brothers information revealing the company responsible for the illegal robocalls.
- 35. Each time Plaintiff answered the phone there was a 10 second delay before being connected to a live representative.
- 36. Plaintiff received multiple calls from spoofed caller ID's initiated using an automated telephone dialing system. The calls were made by a third-party telemarketer on behalf of Defendant Brothers. The calls generally had a delay of 5-10 seconds of dead air before an audible tone connected the Plaintiff to a representative, indicating the calls were initiated using an ATDS. The Plaintiff received at least 9 calls.
- 37. Each and every call was initiated using a spoofed caller ID, and each and every telemarketer the Plaintiff spoke with failed to properly identify themselves and the parties they were calling on behalf of.
- 38. Plaintiff received the following calls from the Defendants (Table A).

Call Phone Number	Name on Caller ID	Date	Time
732-520-5747	UNKNOWN NAME	3/12/2020	11:42AM
973-453-2167	UNKNOWN NAME	7/16/2020	3:04PM
973-453-2167	UNKNOWN NAME	8/11/2020	10:40AM
973-453-2167	UNKNOWN NAME	10/27/2020	10:20AM
973-453-2167	UNKNOWN NAME	11/11/2020	1:00PM
973-453-2167	UNKNOWN NAME	11/19/2020	11:33AM
732-520-5747	UNKNOWN NAME	12/4/2020	12:36PM
732-520-5747	UNKNOWN NAME	12/4/2020	12:41PM
973-453-2167	UNKNOWN NAME	12/16/2020	12:25PM

- 39. Defendants employ outrageous, aggressive, and illegal sales techniques that violate multiple federal laws and state consumer statutes.
- 40. None of the Defendants registered pursuant to § 302.101 of the Texas Business & Commerce Code to provide telephone solicitations. The

https://direct.sos.state.tx.us/telephonesearch.asp site ("Texas Registration Database") does not contain any of the Defendants registrations.

- 41. None of the Defendants qualify for an exemption under § 302.053.
- 42. The Defendants never sent Mr. Callier any do-not-call policy. Plaintiff sent an internal do-not-call policy request to <u>info@brponesta.com</u>.
- 43. On information and belief, the Defendants did not have a written do-not-call policy while they were sending Mr. Callier the unsolicited calls.
- 44. On information and belief, the defendant did not train its agents who engaged in telemarketing on the existence and use of any do-not-call list.
- 45. Defendant Tramaglini is aware of and authorized the robocalling campaign and allows

 Independent Sales Organization (ISOs) to violate the TCPA because it increases revenues to

 Defendant Brothers. Defendant Tramaglini authorized and ratified the contracts and

 compensation to the ISOs who solicit on behalf Defendant Brothers.
- 46. ISOs solicit on behalf of Defendant Brothers for compensation and submit applications directly with Defendant Brothers for processing and approval.
- 47. Defendant Brothers and Defendant Tramaglini are aware of the robocalling campaign and support the robocalling campaign because it increases revenues for Defendant Brothers.
- 48. Defendant Brothers offers sales incentives to ISOs in order to encourage ISOs to target and solicit consumers on behalf of Defendant Brothers. The ISOs are acting with actual and apparent authority on behalf of Defendant Brothers.
- 49. Mr. Callier has a limited data plan. Incoming text messages chip away at his monthly allotment.
- 50. Mr. Callier has limited data storage capacity on his cellular telephone. Incoming

telemarketing calls consumed part of this capacity.

- 51. No emergency necessitated the calls
- 52. Each call was sent by an ATDS.

Vicarious Liability of the Sellers

- 53. These parties are vicariously liable under the theories of actual authority, apparent authority, and ratification, and as well as liable because any other result would impair the underlying purpose of the TCPA.
- 54. Defendant Brothers is the liable party as the direct beneficiary of the illegal telemarketing calls as they stood to gain the Plaintiff as a client and quoted the Plaintiff their services in obtaining business funding.
- 55. The approved loan paperwork shows that the beneficial party who was gaining customers was Defendant Brothers.
- 56. Defendant Brothers has hired a team of ISOs to solicit their business funding products on their behalf. Defendant Brothers is aware of their cold calling campaign that ignores the National Do Not Call registry. Defendant Brothers allows the robocalling solicitations because it benefits Defendant Brothers.
- 57. Defendant Brothers authorized third-party telemarketers to generate prospective customers.

 Defendant Brothers paid third-party telemarketers to promote its products and services.

 Defendant Brothers integration of robocalling into its sales process was so seamless that it appeared to an outside party like Plaintiff that the third-party telemarketers were the telemarketing department of Defendant Brothers.

THE SELLERS SHOULD BE HELD LIABLE TO UPHOLD THE DETERRENT EFFECT AND PURPOSE OF THE TCPA

- 58. As the court ruled in Jackson v Caribbean Cruise Line, Inc., the defendant sellers should be held liable for their violations of the TCPA. Courts have looked at the purpose of the TCPA and found that not holding the sellers liable through vicarious liability would undermine the purpose of the TCPA.
- 59. Every entity in the application for "business funding" should be deemed a beneficiary of the calls and held liable for damages under the TCPA under vicarious liability. Sellers are in the best position to monitor and police third party telemarketer's compliance with the TCPA and to hold otherwise would leave consumers without an effective remedy for telemarketing intrusions.

DEFENDANT TRAMAGLINI IS PERSONALLY LIABLE

- 60. Defendant Tramaglini refuses to take any action to stop or curtail the unlawful sales practices and robocalling because these practices benefit Defendant Tramaglini financially.
- 61. "If the officer directly participated in or authorized the statutory violation, even though acting on behalf of the corporation, he may be personally liable. See *United States v Pollution Serv. Of Oswego, Inc.*, 763 F.2d 133, 134-135 (2nd Cir.1985)
- 62. The "well-settled" tort rule provides that "when corporate officers directly participate in or authorized the commission of a wrongful act, even if the act is done on behalf of the corporation, they may be personally liable." *General Motos Acceptance Corp. v. Bates*, 954 F.2d 1081, 1085 (5th Cir. 1992). The Fifth Circuit has elaborated that "the thrust of the general [tort] rule is that the officer to be held personally liable must have some direct, personal participation in the tort, as where the defendant was the 'guiding spirit' behind the wrongful conduct....or the 'central figure' in the challenged corporate activity." *Mozingo v. Correct Mfg. Corp.*, 752 F.2d

168, 174 (5th Cirt. 1985) (Citing Escude Cruz v. Ortho Pharmaceutical Corp., 619 F. 2d 902, 907 (1st Cir.1980)) (Citing Texas v. American Blastfax, Inc., 164 F. Supp. 2d 892 (W.D. Tex. 2001)

63. Quoting Texas v. American Blastfax:

The Court finds the above principles applicable to the TCPA that is, an officer may be personally liable under the TCPA if he had direct, personal participation in or personally authorized the conduct found to have violated the statute, and was not merely tangentially involved. Individuals who directly (and here, knowingly and willfully) violate the TCPA should not escape liability solely because they are corporate officers. As the State persuasive argues, to hold otherwise would allow the individual defendants to simply dissolve Blastfax, set-up a new shell corporation, and repeat their conduct. Congress surely did not intend to permit such a result in passing the TCPA.

To be clear, the Court finds Greg and Michael Horne were the "guiding spirits" an the "central figures" behind the TCPA violations. They were the two persons who controlled all of Blastfax's day-to-day operations. They both had direct, personal involvement in and ultimate control over every aspect of Blastfax's wrongful contuct that violate the TCPA, and/or directly controlled and authorized this conduct. And they did so with their eyes and pocketbooks wide open. After October 5, 2000, Greg and Michael Horne had good reason to believe they were running a business that violated the TCPA. On February 9, 2001, they knew they were. Yet they continued to direct their company to send unsolicited intrastate fax advertisements. This is fare more than a simple derivative liability case. Accordingly, the Court *899 holds defendants Greg and Michael Horne are jointly and severally liable with Defendant Blastfax, Inc., for all TCPA damages in this lawsuit." Texas v. American Blastfax, Inc., 164 F. Supp. 2d 892 (W.D. Tex. 2001)

64. The Same Court held that corporate officers were also personally liable for DTPA violations

The State contends Greg and Michael Horne are personally liable for any DTPA damages because they were solely responsible for the violating conduct.....For the same reasons discussed in finding the individual defendants personally liable under the TCPA, the Court agrees. See, e.g., *Barclay v. Johnson*, 686 S.W.2d 334, 336-37 (Tex. Civ. App.-Houston [1ST Dist.] 1985, no writ) (finding personal liability for corporate officer in DTPA misrepresentation claim, based on general rule that "a corporate agent knowingly participating in a tortious of fraudulent act may be held individually liable, even though he performed the act as an agent for the corporation......Accordingly, the Court finds defendants American Blastfax, Inc., Greg Horne and Michael Horne are jointly and severally liable for \$6,000 in damages

for their violations of the DTPA." Texas v. American Blastfax, Inc., 164 F. Supp. 2d 892 (W.D. Tex. 2001

- 65. At all times material to the Complaint, acting alone or in concert with others, Defendant Tramaglini has formulated, directed, controlled, had the authority to control, or participated in the acts and practices of Defendant Brothers including the acts or practices set forth in this Complaint.
- 66. Defendant Tramaglini is the principal director and operator of Defendant Brothers controls the day-to-day operations of Brothers and directed their employees, agents, salespersons, and solicitors to make TCPA violating phone calls and to solicit business funding services and goods.
- 67. Defendant Tramaglini approved the telemarketing scripts, signed the contracts, paid commissions for the illegal behavior, and directed the illegal calls to be made for his financial benefit.
- 68. Defendant Tramaglini knowingly and willfully ignores the law. These violations are the direct result of the instructions Defendant Tramaglini has given to his agents, employees, solicitors, salespersons, and others that carry out his schemes.
- 69. Defendant Tramaglini is not merely a bystander. His is the mastermind that scheme, planned, directed, initiated, and controlled the illegal and fraudulent behavior.
- 70. Defendant Tramaglini is well aware his conduct violated the TCPA and Tex. DPTA and refused to alter their behavior. Defendant Tramaglini is the sole director of Brothers and the only person with the power to make the unlawful, fraudulent, and unethical behavior stop. Yet, Tramaglini has taken no steps to stop the behavior because the behavior benefits Tramaglini financially. Defendant Tramaglini breaks the law with his eyes and pocketbooks wide open.

- 71. Defendants Brothers, and Tramaglini should be held jointly and severally liable for both the TCPA violations and Tex. Bus. Com. Code 302.101 via the Tex. DTPA because they actually committed the conduct that violated the TCPA and Tex. DTPA, and/or they actively oversaw and directed this conduct.
- 72. Defendant Tramaglini should be held liable because to do otherwise would simply allow him to dissolve Brothers and set up a new corporation and repeat their conduct. This would result in both the TCPA and DTPA being unenforceable.

INJURY, HARM, DAMAGES, and ACTUAL DAMAGES AS A RESULT OF THE CALLS

- 73. Defendant's calls harmed the Plaintiff by causing the very harm that Congress sought to prevent—a "nuisance and invasion of privacy."
- 74. Defendant's calls harmed the Plaintiff by trespassing upon and interfering with Plaintiff's rights and interests in Plaintiff's cellular telephone.
- 75. Defendant's calls harmed the Plaintiff by trespassing upon and interfering with Plaintiff's rights and interests in Plaintiff's cellular telephone line.
- 76. Defendant's calls harmed the Plaintiff by intruding upon Plaintiff's seclusion.
- 77. The Plaintiff has been harmed, injured, and damages by the calls including, but not limited to:
- Reduced Device Storage space and reduced data plan usage
- Invasion of privacy
- Reduced enjoyment and usage of my cell phone
- Reduced battery usage

Anger and Frustration

The Plaintiff's cell phone is a residential number

78. The calls were to the Plaintiff's cellular phone 915-383-4604, which is the Plaintiff's personal cell phone that he uses for personal, family, and household use. The Plaintiff maintains no landline phones at his residence and has not done so for at least 10 years and primarily relies on cellular phones to communicate with friends and family. The Plaintiff also uses his cell phone for navigation purposes, sending and receiving emails, timing food when cooking, and sending and receiving text messages. The Plaintiff further has his cell phone registered in his personal name, pays the cell phone from his personal accounts, and the phone is not primarily used for any business purpose.

Violations of the Texas Business and Commerce Code § 302.101

- 79. The actions of the Defendants violated the Texas Business and Commerce Code 302.101 by placing solicitation phone calls to a Texas resident without having registration certificate and bond on file with the Texas Secretary of State.
- 80. Under Texas Business and Commerce Code § 302.302 Plaintiff is entitled to seek damages of up to \$5000 per violation of §302.101.

Violations of the Texas Business and Commerce Code 305.053

81. The actions of the defendants violated the Texas Business and Commerce Code 305.053 by placing automated calls to a cell phone which violate 47 USC 227(b). The calls by the defendants violated Texas law by placing calls with a pre-recorded message to a cell phone

which violate 47 USC 227(c)(5) and 47 USC 227(d) and 47 USC 227(d)(3) and 47 USC 227(e).

82. The calls by the defendants violated Texas law by spoofing the caller ID's per 47 USC 227(e) which in turn violates the Texas statute.

FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF:

(Violation of the TCPA "Sales Call/DNC" Prohibition, 47 C.F.R. § 64.1200(C))

- 1. Mr. Callier realleges and incorporates by reference each and every allegation set forth in the preceding paragraphs.
- 2. Defendants called Plaintiff's private residential telephone number which was successfully registered on the National Do-Not-Call Registry more than thirty-one (31) days prior to the calls, in violation of 47 U.S.C. § 227(c)(3)(F), and 47 C.F.R. § 64.1200(c)(2).
- 3. Plaintiff was statutorily damaged at least eleven (11) times under 47 U.S.C. § 227(c)(3)(F) by the Defendant by the telephone calls described above, in the amount of \$500 per call.
- 4. Plaintiff is entitled to an award up to \$1,500 in damages for each knowing or willful violation of 47 U.S.C. § 227(c)(3)(F).

SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Non-Emergency Robocalls to Cellular Telephones, 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1)(A))

(Against All Defendants)

83. Mr. Callier realleges and incorporates by reference each and every allegation set forth in the preceding paragraphs.

- 84. The foregoing acts and omissions of Defendants and/or their affiliates or agents constitute multiple violations of the TCPA, 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1)(A), by making non-emergency telemarketing robocalls to Mr. Callier's cellular telephone number without his prior express written consent.
- 85. Mr. Callier is entitled to an award of at least \$500 in damages for each such violation. 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(B).
- 86. Mr. Callier is entitled to an award of up to \$1,500 in damages for each such knowing or willful violation. 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3).
- 87. Mr. Callier also seeks a permanent injunction prohibiting Defendants and their affiliates and agents from making non-emergency telemarketing robocalls to cellular telephone numbers without the prior express written consent of the called party.

THIRD CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Telemarketing Without Mandated Safeguards, 47 C.F.R. § 64.1200(d))

(Against All Defendants)

- 88. Mr. Callier realleges and incorporates by reference each and every allegation set forth in the preceding paragraphs.
- 89. The foregoing acts and omissions of Defendants and/or their affiliates or agents constitute multiple violations of FCC regulations by making telemarketing solicitations despite lacking:
- a. a written policy, available upon demand, for maintaining a do-not-call list, in violation of 47 C.F.R. § 64.1200(d)(1); ²

² See id. at 425 (codifying a June 26, 2003 FCC order).

- b. training for the individuals involved in the telemarketing on the existence of and use of a do-not-call list, in violation of 47 C.F.R. § 64.1200(d)(2);³ and,
- c. in the solicitations, the name of the individual caller and the name of the person or entity on whose behalf the call is being made, in violation of 47 C.F.R. § 64.1200(d)(4).4
- 90. Mr. Callier is entitled to an award of at least \$500 in damages for each such violation. 47 U.S.C. § 227(c)(5)(B).
- 91. Mr. Callier is entitled to an award of up to \$1,500 in damages for each such knowing or willful violation. 47 U.S.C. § 227(c)(5).
- 92. Mr. Callier also seeks a permanent injunction prohibiting Defendants and their affiliates and agents from making telemarketing solicitations until and unless they (1) implement a do-not-call list and training thereon and (2) include the name of the individual caller and AFS's name in the solicitations.

FORTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF:

(Violations of The Texas Business and Commerce Code 305.053)

- 93. Mr. Callier realleges and incorporates by reference each and every allegation set forth in the preceding paragraphs.
- 94. The foregoing acts and omissions of Defendants and/or their affiliates or agents constitute multiple violations of the **Texas Business and Commerce Code 305.053**, by making non-emergency telemarketing robocalls to Mr. Callier's cellular telephone number without his prior express written consent in violation of 47 USC 227 et seq. The Defendants violated 47

³ See id. at 425 (codifying a June 26, 2003 FCC order).

⁴ See id. at 425 - 26 (codifying a June 26, 2003 FCC order).

USC 227(d) and 47 USC 227(d)(3) and 47 USC 227(e) by using an ATDS that does not comply with the technical and procedural standards under this subsection.

- 95. Mr. Callier is entitled to an award of at least \$500 in damages for each such violation.

 Texas Business and Commerce Code 305.053(b)
- 96. Mr. Callier is entitled to an award of up to \$1,500 in damages for each such knowing or willful violation. Texas Business and Commerce Code 305.053(c).

FIFTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF:

(Violations of The Texas Business and Commerce Code 302.101)

- 97. Mr. Callier incorporates the foregoing allegations as if set forth herein. by reference each and every allegation set forth in the preceding paragraphs.
- 98. The foregoing acts and omissions of Defendants and/or their affiliates or agents constitute multiple violations of the **Texas Business and Commerce Code 302.101**, by making non-registered solicitation calls to Plaintiff's cellular telephone number without his prior express written consent.
- 99. Mr. Callier is entitled to an award of up to \$5,000 in damages for each such knowing or willful violation. Texas Business and Commerce Code 302.302.
- 100. Mr. Callier is entitled to an award for all reasonable costs of prosecuting the action, including court costs and investigation costs, deposition expenses, witness fees and attorney's fees.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff Brandon Callier prays for judgment against the defendants jointly and severally as follows:

- A. Leave to amend this Complaint to name additional DOESs as they are identified and to conform to the evidence presented at trial;
- B. A declaration that actions complained of herein by Defendants violate the TCPA and Texas state law;
- C. An injunction enjoining Defendants and their affiliates and agents from engaging in the unlawful conduct set forth herein;
- D. An award of \$3000 per call in statutory damages arising from the TCPA intentional violations jointly and severally against the corporation and individual for 9 calls.
- E. An award of \$1,500 in statutory damages arising from violations of the Texas Business and Commerce code 305.053
- F. An award of \$5,000 in statutory damages arising from violations of the Texas Business and Commerce code 302.101.
 - G. An award to Mr. Callier of damages, as allowed by law under the TCPA;
- H. An award to Mr. Callier of interest, costs and attorneys' fees, as allowed by law and equity
 - I. Such further relief as the Court deems necessary, just, and proper.

March 4, 2022,

Respectfully Submitted,

Brandon Callier Plaintiff, Pro-se 6336 Franklin Trail El Paso, TX 79912 915-383-4604